

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the application as indicated hereafter.

In the Claims

Please substitute the following clean copy claims for the pending claims of the same number:

4. The shackle assembly of claim 2, wherein said telescopic connector means further includes said tubular support and said rod having aligned openings that pass transversely through said support and rod; and wherein said trolley includes a wheel axle extending through said aligned openings for engaging said tubular support and said rod; at least one of said aligned openings also being of larger breadth than a cross-sectional breadth of said wheel axle for permitting telescopic movement between said tubular support and said rod in a substantially non-rotating relationship.

15. The shackle assembly of claim 10, wherein one of said aligned openings is a slotted opening.

19. A method of processing poultry carcasses as the carcasses move along a poultry processing path and for weighing the carcasses on a weighing scale as the carcasses are moved along the processing path, the method comprising:
suspending the carcasses from a shackle having a trolley support with a trolley attached thereto and a bird carrier connected to said trolley support, and while the carcass is suspended:

passing the trolley over the weighing scale;
in response to passing the trolley over the weighing scale, lifting the bird carrier by telescopic connecting means between the trolley support and the bird carrier with respect to the trolley support using the scale;

weighing the carcass as the carcass passes over the scale;
turning the carcasses about a vertical axis; and
cutting the carcass into segments.